



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

Raised Bill No. 314

LCO No. 1552



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE HERITAGE PARKS ADVISORY BOARDS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 23-10i of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, in
4 consultation with the Commissioner of Economic and Community
5 Development and the State Historic Commission, shall develop criteria
6 and guidelines for the designation of heritage parks consisting of sites
7 in a region linked by a common social, historical or economic theme.
8 Thereafter, in accordance with such criteria and guidelines, the
9 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may designate
10 the boundaries, name and theme of any such park, as well as any
11 physical sites to be included. Any designation shall be consistent with
12 the plan for development of outdoor recreation and other natural
13 resources authorized under section 22a-21 and shall be made after
14 consideration of the significance of the heritage of the sites to be
15 included and the economic benefit to the state from such designation.
16 Sites designated for inclusion in a heritage park shall not be required

17 to be contiguous to one another and need not be owned by the state.

18 [(b) Prior to designating a heritage park, the commissioner shall
19 establish an advisory board to advise him on the designation of the
20 boundaries, name, theme and sites to be included in a potential
21 heritage park. The board shall consist of not less than ten members
22 representing municipalities located within the boundaries of the
23 proposed heritage park. The number of members from each
24 municipality shall be determined based on the ratio of the population
25 of such municipality to the population of all the municipalities to be
26 included in the proposed heritage park. The commissioner shall
27 appoint the members of the board from lists submitted by the
28 legislative bodies of the municipalities located within the boundaries
29 of the proposed heritage park.]

30 [(c)] (b) The commissioner shall conduct a public hearing
31 concerning the boundaries, name, theme and sites to be included in a
32 proposed heritage park at least thirty days prior to designation of such
33 park. At least thirty days before such hearing, the commissioner shall
34 cause to be published once, in a newspaper having a substantial
35 circulation in the area affected, notice of the proposal to designate a
36 heritage park along with notice of the time, date and location of the
37 public hearing to be held on such designation.

38 [(d) The designation of the name, boundaries and theme of a
39 heritage park shall not be effective until it is approved by each
40 municipality that is located within the boundaries of such park, by
41 vote of its legislative body.]

42 (c) No site shall be designated for inclusion in such park unless the
43 owner of such site consents to its inclusion.

44 [(e)] (d) Upon designation of [a] any heritage park, the
45 commissioner [shall establish an advisory board to advise him on the
46 promotion and development of such park. The members shall be
47 appointed as provided in subsection (b) of this section] shall develop a

48 plan for the promotion and development of such park.

49 [(f)] (e) The commissioner [, after consultation with the advisory
50 board established pursuant to subsection (e) of this section,] may
51 designate additional sites to be included in a heritage park, provided
52 the owners of any such site consent to the designation. The
53 commissioner may, after a public hearing held pursuant to the notice
54 provisions of subsection (c) of this section, [and upon approval by each
55 municipality located within the boundaries of a heritage park,] alter
56 the boundaries, name and theme of such heritage park.

57 [(g)] (f) The commissioner may, within available appropriations, (1)
58 establish and operate centers for the distribution of information about
59 heritage parks, and (2) lease or purchase land or buildings and accept
60 gifts, donations or contributions for the purposes of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	from passage	23-10i

Statement of Purpose:

To facilitate the establishment of heritage parks by eliminating the requirement for the establishment of advisory boards.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]